

pany may at any regular meeting elect honorary members, who shall become honorary members of this Company thereupon, by paying to the Treasurer, the sum of three dollars each.

BY-LAWS

1. The board for the trial of offenses and non-attendance of members at musters and all other delinquencies shall be tried by a Court Martial, a majority of which shall rule.

2. The Court Martial shall consist of the commissioned and non-commissioned officers of the company.

Looking around in the court house for something to print. I came upon some old papers in the hand writing of General William Skeen, which gave the roster of "The Pocahontas Rescues." an infantry company organized when war threatened between the states, back in 1860. I print it herewith. Also the constitution and by-laws.

The company was mustered in on Saturday, May 18, 1861, and marched on that day to defend the sacred soil of Virginia from invasion by Federal forces in the northwest.

They met the invaders at Phillippi, Barbour County, and had no luck in repelling them.

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On Monday, January 13, eleven volunteers from Pocahontas County took bus for Clarksburg where they were inducted into the army service. They were:

839-V 6 Bert H. Waugh
540 V 7 Jacob Woodrow Shinn-
berry.
836 V-11 Wayne Geiger
641-V 12 Jacob Gene Loury
130-V 13 Ralph Leon Long
.V-14 Wm. Raymond Bowers
V 15 Howard James Kelley
718-V-16 Roy J Houchin
421-V-19 Joseph Leonard Moses, Jr
10-V 21 Arch Waybright
694-V 22 Norman Wilson Phillips

On Thursday, January 16, another soldier will go out to Clarksburg under the selective service, in the person of 348-V-9 Thurl William Gary.

In about five hours the young volunteers were in Clarksburg at the induction station. They will be sent from there to army posts to be thoroughly and properly trained for our and their own protection should war be forced upon us. Naturally I was interested in the going out of a company of volunteers eighty years ago from this County. This company, the Pocahontas Rescuers, took about a week to march eighty miles, to learn war in the raw. So—

Muster roll of the "Pocahontas Rescuers" mustered into service on May 18th, 1861.

Captain, Stofer, D. A. 1 pr gloves, 25. b
Lieutenant, C. J. I. Skeen, b
O. Sergeant, Slarker, D. W. C.
Musicians, Roby, Walter R, b
Ervine, Wm. H.
Privates, Akers, James
Alderman, Andrew C.
Angus, Timoleon
Boon, Beverly, b
Burr, George
Burr, Frederick
Carpenter, Wm H, b
Cortett, Muscoe
Cole, Wm.
Cash, George, 1 shirt \$1.25, b
Friel, Montgomery B.
Grimes, Peter
Gannon, Cyrus S.
Griffith, John b.
Griffin, Matthias P.
Helmick, Amos
Harold, Charles B.
Harold, Benjamin F.
Hogsett, William B. b
Hanes, Isaac B.
Hannah, Robert A. b
Hannah, Joseph b
Henson, William
Hamilton, Adam G
Johnson, Joseph I
Jordan, Joseph D. b
Loom, Ezra

Moriarty, Patrick, pr shoes, b
McLaughlin, James H, b
McLaughlin, Hugh
Moore, Michael, b
Moore, Levi
Mitchell, Sylvester, b
Piles, Wm. L
Piles, John
Pence, John H
Swadley, James
Smith, Lewis, b
Siyey, Cain H, 1 shirt \$1.25
Slavens, Wm. W
Seebert, Lanty L
Shannon, James, b
Sharp, Martin B
Varner, Daniel A, b
Whollihan, Michael
Whollihan, Patrick
Waugh, Levi, b
Weaver, Charles W. 1 pr gloves, 25 cents, b

Weaver, Robert L, b

"b" signifies that they have received blankets.

The Pocahontas Rescuers marched from Huntersville about 10 a. m. on May 18, 1861. A large crowd of ladies and gentlemen were present and at the moment of marching hardly an eye that was not wet with tears. Many gentlemen and ladies accompanied us to the Bridge. Then the Rev. Mr. Flaherty addressed the crowd and all meekly bowed the knee in the public road while he fervently addressed a prayer in behalf of those marching and of the parents and friends left behind. Halted at night in front of William Gibson's and the company were entertained by Mr and Mrs Gibson, John and John B. Hannah and I. M. Hogsett.

Sunday 19th—After the company attended church at I. M. Hogsett's and heard a patriotic sermon from Rev. Flaherty, they marched to J. Varner's. Just as the company arrived the Cavalry under Captain Mc Neel came in sight. They were received with all honor. The company then heard a sermon from Rev. J. E. Moore and were dismissed and entertained by Jno Varner, Josiah Herold, Colonel Gatewood at Big Spring, John Bath-Cavalry and Company. Then across the Mountain to Marshall's. Rain during the evening and all night.

Monday 20th—March resumed at 6 1-2 a. m Halted an hour at J. W. Marshall's and marched to Jacob Conrad's; 15 staying overnight at John Conrad's, a few going with John McLaughlin, 5 to Snyders and the rest quartered upon Jacob Conrad. Rained at intervals all day.

Constitution Of The Company

Article 1—This company shall be known by the name of Pocahontas Rescuers.

Article 2—The regular musters of the said company shall be held on the

first Saturday in the month of April, May, June, August, September and October and the July muster shall be held on the 4th day of the month, save when the 4th happens to fall on Sunday, when it shall be held on the 5th.

Article 3—All fines assessed against commissioned officers for failure to attend muster shall be \$5 00; non-commissioned officers \$2 50; privates \$1 25.

Article 4—All fines assessed shall be for the benefit of the company, to be disbursed whenever the amount of \$20 or more shall be found in the hands of the treasurer unappropriated, by a vote of the Company. The majority ruling, if it is considered practicable.

Article 5—This Constitution may be altered or amended at any time by vote of two thirds concurring at a regular meeting, when a majority is present.

Article 6—There shall be a president, secretary and treasurer chosen by the company, who shall hold their office for one year, whose duties shall be those usually performed by such officers.

Article 7—A majority of the Company may at any regular meeting elect honorary members, who shall be come honorary members of this Company thereupon, by paying to the Treasurer, the sum of three dollars each.

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Pocahontas - 4

State of West Virginia

*Report of Droop Mountain
Battlefield Commission*



JOHN D. SUTTON, Chairman

N. F. KENDALL, Secretary

R. F. KIDD

A. L. HELMICK

M. M. HARRISON

Members

CHARLESTON, W. VA.

1928

Report of the Droop Mountain Battlefield Commission

The Droop Mountain Battlefield Commission respectfully submits the following report: That on the 25th day of January, 1927, House Joint Resolution No. 8, was adopted, which is as follows:

“Providing for the appointment of a commission for the battlefield on Droop Mountain.”

Resolved by the Legislature of West Virginia:

WHEREAS, One of the hard fought battles of the Civil War occurred at Droop Mountain, in November, 1863, a battle in which West Virginia soldiers, both Union and Confederate, participated; and,

WHEREAS, The intervening years have obliterated many of the marks of that battle, yet there are still living old soldiers and citizens who can mark out the various positions of the different regiments, battalions and companies that were engaged in the battle; and,

WHEREAS, Droop Mountain is a very high elevation overlooking the valley of the Greenbrier River, the little levels of Pocahontas County, and the far off peaks of the Alleghany Mountains, making it one of the most beautiful scenic spots in West Virginia; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Governor be requested to appoint a committee of five, three from the House and two from the Senate, whose duty it will be to look over the battlefield, temporarily mark the battle lines, and secure all necessary information from the old soldiers and citizens yet living in the community, that everything authentic may be preserved for future generations. The committee shall ascertain the owners of the land upon which the battle was fought and take a conditional option on some part of such land, of not less than fifty acres, at a price that seems reasonable to the committee.

The members of the committee shall be paid their actual expenses incurred in carrying out this resolution.

Pursuant to the Joint Resolution aforesaid and in compliance therewith, your Excellency on the 21st day of April, 1927, appointed a commission as follows:

From the House of Delegates:

John D. Sutton of Sutton, West Virginia.

N. F. Kendall of Grafton, West Virginia.

M. M. Harrison of Confidence, West Virginia.

From the Senate:

A. L. Helmick of Thomas, West Virginia.

Robert F. Kidd of Glenville, West Virginia.

That your Commission met on the 28th day of April, 1927, in the City of Charleston, and organized by the election of John D. Sutton as chairman and N. F. Kendall as Secretary.

The Commission at this meeting authorized the Chairman to employ a competent engineer to aid and assist in the preparation of the map of the battlefield, showing the most important points in this, one of the fiercest and most decisive battles waged on West Virginia soil during the Civil War. The Commission then adjourned to meet at the call of the Chairman.

Your Commission pursuant to the call of the Chairman on the 16th day of July, 1927, met at Marlinton and on the 19th visited the scene of the battlefield on Droop Mountain, accompanied by quite a number of prominent and interested citizens from Marlinton and Hillsboro—many of whom were thoroughly acquainted with the battlefield and furnished much valuable information to the Commission.

On July 20th, 1927, the Commission met in session at the residence of Mrs. Rebecca B. McCarty, which is located on the farm where the great and destructive battle was fought. All of the members of the Commission were present.

The Commission inspected the battlefield and made a fairly complete survey of the same. It comprises more than two thousand acres of territory.

Your Commission further reports that they stood on the summit of Droop Mountain on a calm, quiet summer day, when the whole surrounding country seemed at peace and there was nothing to indicate that sixty-four years prior to that time those who wore the blue and those clad in the gray were engaged on that hill in one gigantic struggle for the mastery of West Virginia, then in its infancy. Each army fought for what it believed to be right and nearly all of the men who were actors in that bloody drama were West Virginians. But the North and South ended their bitter struggle, the Republic was preserved, and the animosity engendered by that conflict has passed away and universal peace reigns throughout the Republic.

The scene spread out before us was one of indescribable beauty and enchantment. Towering mountains, the smiling and fertile plain and the famous and historic Greenbrier River, flowing gently at the base of the rugged mountain. Nowhere in all of our travels have we witnessed such scenic beauty or such a location for a great State Park.

After such inspection your Commission decided that a part of the battlefield should be optioned for "A Battlefield State Park" and decided that the ground embraced in the McCarty farm, con-



SENATOR R. F. KIDD



SENATOR A. L. HELMICK



DELEGATE JOHN D. SUTTON
CHAIRMAN



DELEGATE N. F. KENDALL
SECRETARY



DELEGATE M. M. HARRISON

of about one hundred and forty-one acres, this covering the spot where the battle was most fiercely waged, and such option was obtained, subject, however to a reservation of fifteen acres around the residence and also the graveyard of one-half acre.

This option is filed herewith and made part of this report and the Secretary was directed to send a copy of the option to your Excellency. The matter of making a survey and of locating and marking the important points of interest was left to the Chairman.

Your Commission further reports that the Chairman caused to be made a map of the said battlefield, showing the location of the battle lines and position of the different units engaged therein, as well as such other valuable information, which plat is filed herewith and made part of this report.

The Commission then adjourned to meet again at the call of the Chairman. A call was made by him for a meeting to be held at Weston, West Virginia, on the 28th day of December, 1927, at which meeting all the members were present, except Delegate Harrison. At this meeting the scope of the report of the Commission was decided upon and the preparation of the report was delegated to Senator Kidd, with the aid of the Chairman and Secretary. It was the expressed intention to make the report very complete, and that it should contain the photographs of your Excellency and of the Commission, and further contain the cuts and a brief biographic sketch of the leading officers engaged in that hotly contested battle, as well as photographic views of the field and of the Little Levels Valley. That it also contain a picture of the old hospital now standing, and further a recommendation for a lake and flying field, and that it also contain letters and interviews obtained from soldiers engaged in the battle and other interesting incidents connected therewith.

Your Commission further reports that all of the matters set forth are filed herewith or printed in this report and asked to be made part thereof.

The Commission reports that Droop Mountain is a high elevation, nearly 3,000 feet above sea level, and contains several high peaks; the land is rolling, and is a limestone soil and the tract optioned is about one-half cleared. The woodland contains some valuable timber.

The scenery from this mountain is beautiful; stretching northward is what is known as the Little Levels of Pocahontas County, and a magnificent view of the Alleghany Mountains and the Green-

brier River as it cuts its way through the myriad hills and spurs of the Alleghenies.

Prior to this battle there were no considerable Confederate forces anywhere in West Virginia except in the Greenbrier Valley, which was held by the Confederates from its head to its foot, a distance of about one hundred seventy miles, and which protected Virginia from attacks from the west. For the purpose of dislodging these Confederate forces, General Averell was directed to march from Beverly, West Virginia, to Lewisburg and that it was while on this march he met the enemy at Droop Mountain. The battle was there fought on the 6th day of November, 1863, between the forces commanded by General Averell, and the Confederate forces by General John Echols and Colonel William L. Jackson.

Your Commission further reports that this was the only battle where the forces were composed largely of West Virginia soldiers, and fought on West Virginia soil.

Droop Mountain is fourteen miles south of Marlinton, seven from Millpoint and four and one-tenth miles from Hillsboro, and it is also ten miles from Renic station, sixteen miles from Frankfort and twenty-four miles from Lewisburg. Your Commission further reports that Hills Creek, rising at the base of some high mountains, west of Droop Mountain, sinks and passes under Droop Mountain, near the middle of the battlefield, then emerges at the eastern edge where it is called Locust Creek. It flows about two miles to the Greenbrier River.

Reports Made by Participants

Your Commission sets out herein a partial report made of said battle by the leading officers who participated therein:

General Averell's Report:

On the first day of November, I left Beverly with my command consisting of the 28th Ohio Volunteer Infantry, Col. A. Moor; 10th West Virginia Infantry, Col. T. M. Harris; 2nd West Virginia Mounted Infantry, Lieut. Col. A. Scott; 3rd West Virginia Mounted Infantry, Lieut. Col. F. W. Thompson; 8th West Virginia Mounted Infantry, Col. J. H. Oley; 14th Pennsylvania Cavalry, Col. J. N. Schoonmaker; Gibson's Battalion and Batteries B & G, First West Virginia Light Artillery, Capt. J. V. Keeper and C. T. Ewing.

On the morning of the 6th we approached the enemy's position. The infantry and one corps of cavalry was sent to the right to ascend a range of hills, with orders to attack the enemy's left and rear, the attack of our infantry, 1,175 strong, was conducted skillfully by Col. Moor.

The 2nd, 3rd and 8th, dismounted, were moved in line obliquely to the right, until their right was joined to Moor's left. Col. Moor says when he arrived in front of the enemy's position, at 1:45 p. m. he formed a line and ordered Col. Harris to move up in double quick, who arrived in the nick of time. "See first formation map."

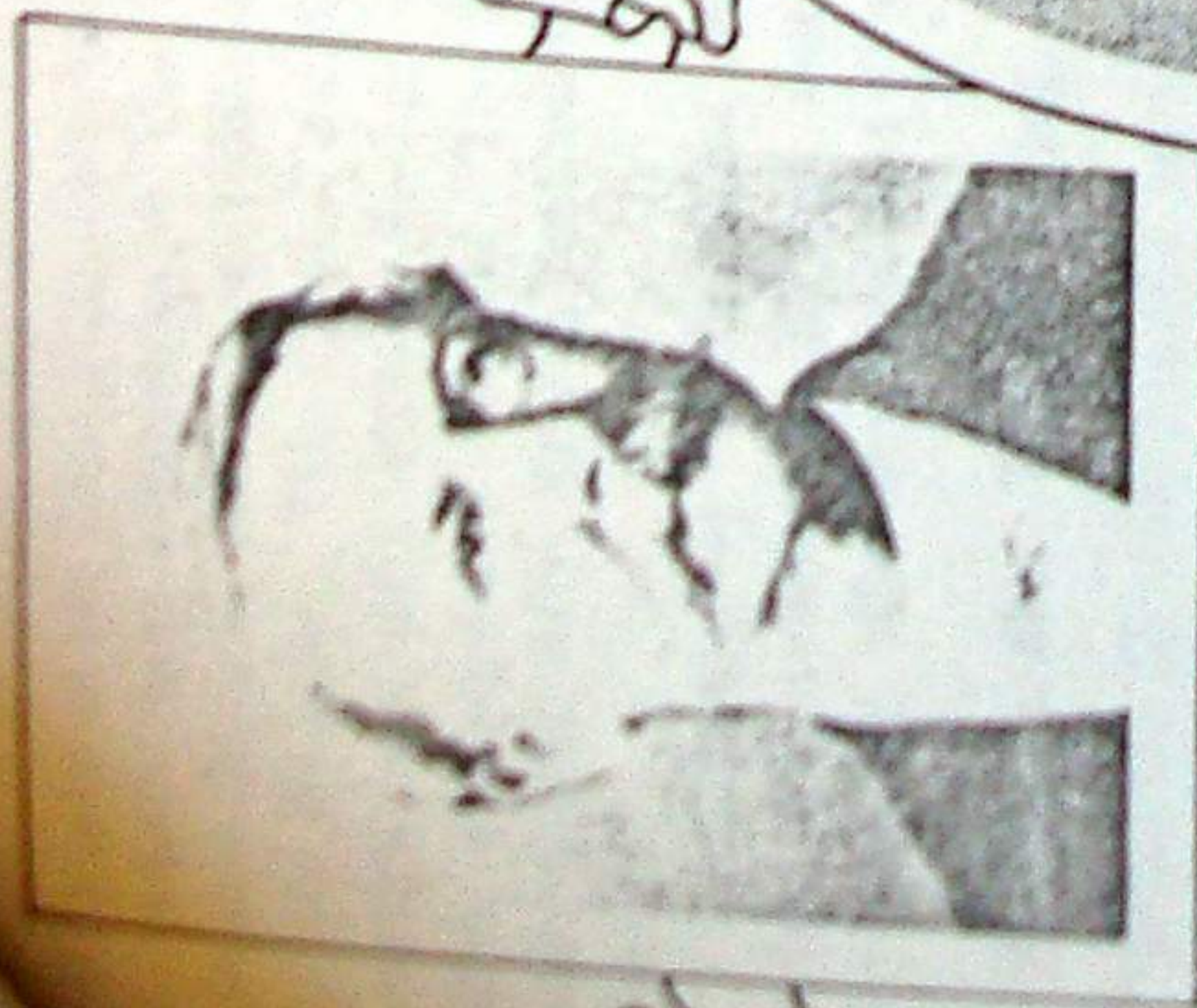
Lieut. Col. Scott's Report

Lieut. Col. Alex. Scott, 2nd West Virginia Mounted Infantry, says that at about 12 o'clock, having moved to the front, "I was ordered to dismount my command and fight on foot, and was ordered to take a position between the third and eighth. At this time we found the 3rd, 8th and 14th Pennsylvania Cavalry in line of battle, with Jackson's force. The 2nd, 3rd and 8th West Virginia Infantry, at once immediately in front of the breastworks."

I went into action with two hundred men; out of that number there were nine killed, fourteen wounded, two mortally, one of whom has since died, seven severely and five slightly.

Report of Colonel John Oley

Eighth West Virginia Mounted Infantry. After taking my place with column on the morning of the 6th, I was ordered to clear



BRIG. GEN.
WM. L. JACKSON



BRIG. GEN.
JOHN ECHOLS



COL. W. P. THOMPSON

COMMANDING OFFICERS OF CONFEDERATE TROOPS

companies of the 23rd Battalion. Later, Colonel Patton was ordered to detach these companies of the 22nd Virginia Infantry under Captain John K. Thompson. Colonel George S. Patton commanded Echols Brigade. The 22nd Virginia went into action with five hundred and fifty strong, losing one hundred and thirteen in killed, wounded and missing. The 23rd Virginia Battalion, three hundred and fifty strong, lost sixty-one in killed, wounded and missing.

Three companies of the 22nd under Captain Thompson, one hundred and twenty-five strong, lost nine killed, thirty wounded, twelve missing. Battle ended at 4 P. M.

Report of Maj. Wm. Blessing, 23rd Virginia Battalion

"When the fighting became very severe I was ordered to march with six companies to the support of Captain Marshall, who, with one hundred and twenty-five dismounted cavalry, was being forced back on the left.

"We were then forced back to a fence at the Bloody Angle. We were then reinforced by three companies of the 22nd Virginia Infantry, and one dismounted company of the 14th Virginia Cavalry.

Report of Col. Thompson

Colonel Thompson, 19th Virginia Cavalry, says that he sent one hundred cavalry under command of Captain Marshall, the command consisting of the 19th and 20th Virginia Cavalry just then, Major Blessing commanding Dennings Battery, consisting of three hundred men, he having deployed his men on the right of the line formed by Captain Marshall.

Report of Col. W. Wiley, 20th Virginia Cavalry

Says that about 2 P. M. we were attacked by the 2nd, 3rd and 8th West Virginia Mounted Infantry.

Report of Col. Milton J. Ferguson

Colonel Ferguson, 16th Virginia Cavalry, says that he reported to General Echols on the 5th of November, who was then on the march, and arrived at the camp of Colonel Jackson at the eastern base of Droop Mountain, at 6 A. M. on the morning of the 6th. One squadron of the 14th Regiment was ordered to take position on the

old road of Locust Creek. The efficient men of six companies were dismounted, four companies placed on extreme left under command of Lieutenant Colonel Gibson and two companies in center. John D. Baxter, orderly sergeant of Company F, 10th West Virginia Infantry, was the first one to cross the rail fence at the bloody angle, and fell mortally wounded inside the enemy's lines.

Letters Bearing Upon the Battle

Brownsville, Fayette County,
Pennsylvania.

November 16, 1927.

DEAR SIR:

I saw your inquiry about Colonel Schoonmaker of Pittsburgh, in the *National Tribune* for the week of November 11. In reply I would inform you that he is dead. He died October 11th, eighty-six years of age. He died from the effects of an operation for appendicitis. I was with Colonel Schoonmaker in the Battle of Droop Mountain in the 14th Pennsylvania Cavalry, Company E.

GEORGE W. ARISON.

Chapel, W. Va., July 12, 1927.

DEAR SIR AND COMRADE:

I do not feel that I have health or the strength to meet you at the Droop Mountain Battlefield next week, much as I would love to. I hope you will be able to properly locate the field. If you could find some Confederate soldiers that were in the fight or native citizens who were acquainted might be helpful. As I remember the enemy were stationed in line of battle and we advanced on them. They soon left the patch, as I remember, during the hottest part of the fight. I was near the head of the Company where we joined Company A. Sergeant of Company A—I can't think of his name now—was killed near my side. Wheeler, Milt Rollyson and others were wounded near about the same time. When the enemy fled the company and regiment that were able followed in pursuit, I think, to Lewisburg. I confess that I was more concerned in what was going on than in noting the lay of the land. Please excuse the rambling. Hope you succeed.

Respectfully,

HENRY BENDER.

Coffeeville, Kansas, March 5, 1927.

DEAR SIR AND COMRADE:

Your letter just to hand having been forwarded to me from Chapel. My recollection of the Droop Mountain Battle is indefinite. I think both regiments marched up the same road until near the summit, the 28th in the lead, near the top filed to the left until both regiments were the same distance on the mountain, when we faced and marched toward the enemy and soon found them. Our formation was Companies A, F, D, and C, after which I am not sure, only Company B was the extreme left. I do not remember any troops on our right. I am only guessing from my recollection, the engagement began not later than 10 A. M. and ended by noon, or before. I do not remember that there was a skirmish line. I always thought our company struck the most formidable point in the enemy's line. I would love to go over the field but do not now feel that I will be able. Anything I can do will be cheerfully done. With best wishes.

HENRY BENDER.

NOTE: Captain Bender was mistaken as to the time that the battle ended.

Progress, W. Va., April 20, 1927.

DEAR MR. SUTTON:

Your letter received the 19th inst.

The battle of Droop Mountain begun about 10 o'clock A. M. and lasted about one hour, as well as I remember.

I belonged to Company F, 10th West Virginia Volunteer Infantry. My position battle ranks. General William Jackson's troops were in front, and I do not remember about the skirmish line. Ninety-two prisoners were captured, and do not know the number killed.

My health will not permit my attending a meeting of the committee.

Very truly yours,

I. G. ENGEL.

NOTE: He was mistaken as to the length of the engagement.

Cottageville, W. Va., May 9, 1927.

MY DEAR OLD FRIEND:

I received your letter some time ago and was certainly glad to



CAPT. JACOB M. RIFE
COMPANY C



CAPT. EDGAR B. BLUNDON
COMPANY F
(PROMOTED TO MAJOR)



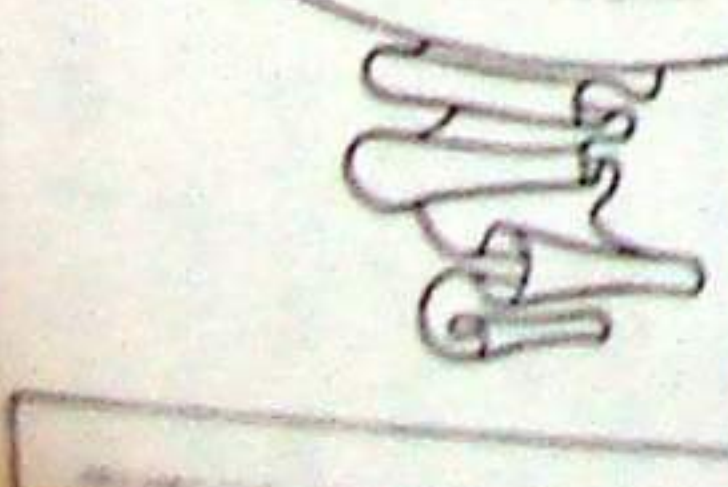
CAPT. FRANCIS MATHERS
COMPANY I



CAPT. ELIAS POWELL
COMPANY K



CAPT. WM. GRAMM
COMPANY B
(PROMOTED TO MAJOR)



CAPT. JAMES S. CASSIDY
COMPANY G



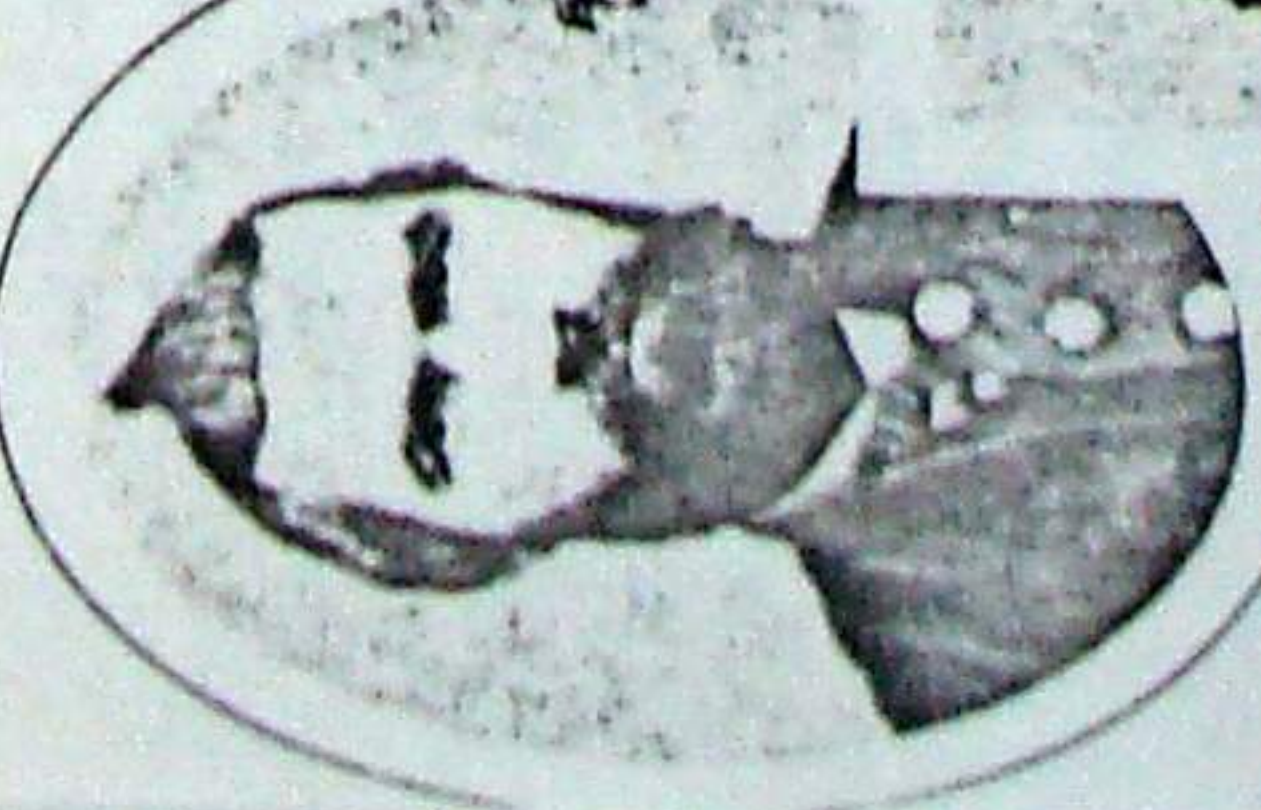
CAPT. LORRENZO M. WILSON
COMPANY E



MAJOR
HEDGEMAN SLACK



GEORGE W. SNOW
COMPANY A



FLETCHER C. LANHAM
COMPANY H



CAPT. ISAAC M. RUCKER
COMPANY L



CAPT. WM. A. WALTON
COMPANY M

MEMBERS OF 27th WEST VIRGINIA MOUNTED INFANTRY, LATER CHANGED TO 7TH WEST VIRGINIA CAVALRY

Drop Mountain Commission Report

Dear from you. I would have answered sooner but my health is very poor and I have been ill for several weeks. Now, as I am feeling better, I will try and write a few lines, giving you the information desired.

We camped, as you will remember, in front of Joe Beard's at the foot of Droop Mountain. The next morning at dawn we broke camp and started across the fields toward a low gap in the mountain, in hope of gaining the pike behind the Confederates, on the west side of the mountain. We were led by Austin Brown, Ike Brown and Mose Stilley, former residents of that locality. Before reaching the low gap on top of the mountain we ran into the Confederates in the woods. The battle now begins, it being about ten o'clock. The 10th West Virginia was in front, followed by the 28th Ohio. When we struck the Confederates we faced south. The battle raged along the top of the mountain southward.

I was wounded near the pike, 60 or 80 yards distance from it, at the close of the battle. The Confederate, who shot me was already wounded and was resting on a log. He shot me as I was on my way to try and disarm him. The other boys were wounded between the low gap and the place where the pike crosses the mountain. The battle ceased sometime between twelve and one o'clock. The dead and wounded were carried away to Joe Beard's home, where they had erected a temporary hospital.

I am the only 10th West Virginia soldier left in Jackson County. Are W. F. and Silas Morrison still living?

I was glad to hear that Captain Bender was still alive, and pleased to know that you are well and strong. I have always felt indebted to you for saving my life on Bolivar Heights. As regards my family, we are all well, my children are scattered, some being in Ohio and some in West Virginia, while my eldest son lives in Florida. I would like to see you once more and talk over our old war days. Come over to Cottageville with Eugene Slaughter sometime. Drive over from Sutton. My faith is clear and strong in Christ and for a home in Heaven.

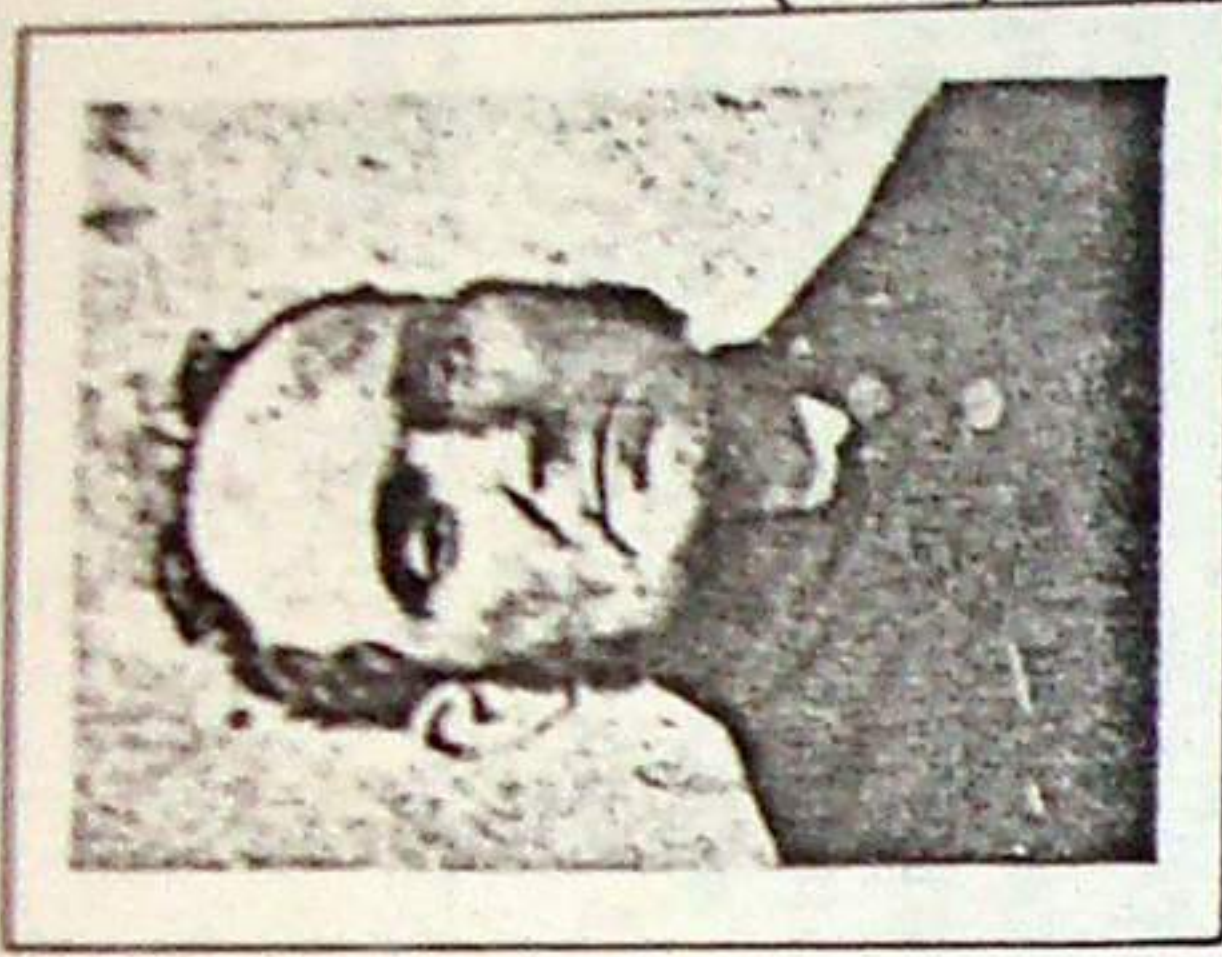
Write me soon again. Best regards to you and family.

Your old comrade,

JOHN A. BLAGG.

Note: The 28th Ohio was formed in line of battle and was engaged with the enemy when the 10th West Virginia came up. See Colonel Moor's official report.

SOME PARTICIPANTS IN THE BATTLE OF DROOP MOUNTAIN



A. W. GREGG
CHAPLAIN
8TH W. VA. MTD. INFANTRY



HENRY H. WITHERS
MAJOR
10TH W. VA. INFANTRY



JOHN D. SUTTON
CO. F, 10TH W. VA. INFANTRY



JOHN D. BAXTER
ORDERLY SGT.
CO. F, 10TH W. VA. INF.
FELL LEADING
LAST CHARGE



LIEUT. HENRY BENI
CO. F, 10TH W. VA.
PROMOTED TO
CAPTAIN
FOR GALLANT



C. W. ANGEL
1ST. LIEUT. CO. M
8TH W. VA. MTD. INFANTRY



J. E. SWAAR
2ND LIEUT. CO. G
8TH W. VA. MTD. INFANTRY

Brownsville, Fayette County, Pennsylvania.

DEAR SIR AND COMRADE:

I see by the *National Tribune* where you inquire for information of my old comrade who was in the Battle of Droop Mountain, I was in that battle.

I belonged to the 14th Pennsylvania Cavalry. The 14th Pennsylvania and the 2nd Virginia, 28th Ohio, Ewing's Battery of 1st Virginia Artillery, the 10th Virginia were sent around to the right to cover in the rear of the fort. The brigade was dismounted at the foot of the mountain and we had orders to lay down and wait for orders.

I belonged to Company E, 14th Pennsylvania, and was wounded in my right arm, August 7, 1864, from which there is four inches of the bone removed. I am 81 years old, went to service when I was 16 years old. Was wounded at Moorefield, Virginia, also at Mt. Jackson, Virginia, in my finger.

GEORGE W. ARISON.

Soldiers Home Hospital, July 14, 1927.

DEAR SIR AND COMRADE:

I see in the *National Tribune* that you wished to get in communication with some survivor of the Battle of Droop Mountain. I was a member of the 10th West Virginia Regiment Infantry and took part in that battle. We were on the right wing of our forces and soon as we located the enemy in thick timber we charged and routed them without any casualties on our part, but with heavy loss to the enemy. Until we came to an open space where the timber had been cut down. There we received a galling fire, and lost a number of men, all from one volley. We then took shelter behind logs and timber, and that is where Sergeant Bird Curry lost his life. We then deployed to the right and routed the Johnnies, and that ended the battle.

Yours truly,

L. S. CLOTHIER,
Co. A, 10th West Virginia Infantry.

Gassaway, W. Va., April 27, 1927.

MY DEAR MR. SUTTON:

I will try and answer you at this late date, as I was away at the arrival of your letter, but will now try to do so.

In the morning of the 6th of November, as the day of the battle,

early in the morning, the Union army began to move on the Southern army in the levels near hills below, that is coming down from Marlinton. They moved down very early. Pop shooting began about 8 o'clock. Jackson moved his besieged back up on the crown of the Droop, and at about 10 o'clock, skirmishing began, very lively, beginning on the eastern face of the Droop, continuing around southward near the Locust Creek Mill and also north to the Black Mountain. General Echols arrived with his force from the direction of Lewisburg, between 8 and 9 o'clock, and Colonel Cochran near the same time, with the 14th Virginia Cavalry. General Echols with most of his men occupied the southern part of the mountain, but Derricks Battalion was placed on the north of the left wing of W. L. Jackson, and the 14th Cavalry was placed on the main top of the main mountain near the turnpike in rear of the artillery. General Jackson's artillery was placed north of the turnpike. His line of battle continued from the turnpike northward around to Hills Creek, including the line of Derricks skirmishers, as stated commenced at about 1 o'clock. Fighting fiercer and fiercer began in earnest and ended at or near 4 or 4:30 in the evening.

General Averell moved his men very near the top of Droop, the men were surprised, but I was not. I told the General but I was too late with the news. That is why I was there in the charge to call Colonel Derrick to fall back. I lost my horse by it, and was captured to boot, but got away before they got off the mountain. I belonged to Company B, 26th Virginia Cavalry, W. L. Jackson's Brigade. I was a courier and then knew nearly all the southern lines of battle.

The regiments in front of the center, east of Droop Mountain, that I knew was there was the 14th Pennsylvania, the 8th and 16th Cavalry, the 10th West Virginia and 28th Ohio. Those two regiments done the heavy part of the fighting. All lines that I come in contact with that day had skirmish lines. As to prisoners caught on either side, I don't remember. But there was forty captured when I was. I might be able to be present and attend a meeting of the Committee at some time this year, I can't just say.

You must be light on considering or criticising my pencil scratching, as my eyes are very bad.

Yours respectfully,

MILTON BUTCHER.

NOTES The bones of the horse have been discovered.